

Claims 14-21, 23, 28 and 30-32 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicant regards as his invention. Claims 14 and 28 are the only independent claims. Favorable consideration is requested.

All of the claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey that one skilled in the relevant art had possession of the claimed invention. In particular, the Office Action states that the added phrase "a control unit adapted to automatically store an image signal including a predetermined angle in a storage unit, in accordance with detecting a change of the image pickup direction by said first detection unit" introduced new matter into Claims 14 and 28 which was not presented at the time the invention was filed.

In response, Applicant has amended Claims 14 and 28. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments render the rejection moot. Applicant further submits that the amendments to Claims 14 and 28 are supported by the specification as originally filed. More specifically, support is found in the specification at page 13, lines 8-17, as follows:

In a document image pickup operation, a document angle detection switch 26a is turned on by being pressed by the image pickup lens 22, indicating to the controller 10 that the image pickup device 20 is in a document state. In a person image pickup operation, a person camera angle detection switch 26b is similarly turned on by being pressed by the image pickup lens 22, indicating to the controller 10 that the image pickup device is in a person pickup mode.

In addition, further support in the specification is found at page 13, line 22, to page 14, line 3, as follows:

The image pickup state can also be detected by switches. This is the same as in the above-mentioned first embodiment. Therefore, when the detection switch 26a is turned off, the controller can connect a switch of a picture selection circuit 50, to a terminal a, select the image memory 40, and output an image signal to an image output terminal 55.

In addition, the specification at page 7, line 9, through page 9, line 1, provides support for detecting that the pickup has been moved from the position for document pickup to that for use as a camera, and that the image signal representing the just-taken document image is stored with an indicator (the H-level signal) of a predetermined angle, that is, the document-image pickup angle. Accordingly, the rejection of Claims 14 and 28 under Section 112, first paragraph, has been obviated, and its withdrawal is therefore respectfully requested.

In addition, all of the claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for including double recitations. Applicant respectfully submits that the foregoing amendments to the dependent claims remedy those rejections.

In response, Applicant has amended Claims 14 and 28. Applicant submits that the amendments render the rejection moot. Therefore, its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

All of the claims were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,550,588 (Hayashi) in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,939,580 (Ishikawa et al.).

Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection on the basis that Applicant's priority date of April 28, 1994, antedates the filing date of *Hayashi* (May 31, 1995). In

addition, Applicant's request for priority document, and a sworn translation thereof, have all been filed in this application. Accordingly, as *Hayashi* is not prior art to the present application, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

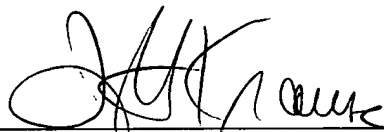
A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicant's opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as references against the independent claims herein. Those claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from Claim 14 or 28 and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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